(i) *Public Sector Banks*

| March | Amount Outstanding (Rs. Crore) | % to net bank credit |
|---|---|---|
| 1998 | 34304 | 15.72 |
| 1999 | 40078 | 16.28 |
| 2000 | 46190 | 15.77 |
| 2001 | 53685 | 15.65 |

(ii) *Private Sector Banks*

| March | Amount Outstanding (Rs. Crore) | % to net bank credit |
|---|---|---|
| 1998 | 2746 | 9.7 |
| 1999 | 3286 | 9.5 |
| 2000 | 4239 | 9.1 |
| 2001 | 4659 | 9.6 |

(d) As on 31st March, 2001, 49.69 per cent of the branches of scheduled commercial banks are functioning in the rural areas.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Discontinuation of I.A. flight from Kolkata to Singapore

2425. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines flight from Kolkata to Singapore has been recently discontinued;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government are aware that this defies logic since the load factor in the flight was reasonably high and the discontinuance would adversely affect the interest of the Eastern region?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Indian Airlines twice-weekly A-320 flight between Kolkata and Singapore *via* Bangkok was discontinued w.e.f. 25th March, 2001 due to poor loads. As against the capacity of 145 seats, the average number of passengers per flight during the last three years was:—

| Year | No. of Passengers |
|---|---|
| 1998 | 29 |
| 1999 | 33 |
| 2000 | 33 |